

CHARTER ISSUES

Will affect everyone's future.



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ur vote CAN make a difference!



CITY CHARTER COMMISSION
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

MUNICIPAL REFERENCE & RECORDS CENTER

City & County of Honolulu

City Hall Annex, 558 S. King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honolulu City Charter is Honolulu's "constitution," laying out the rules by which our City government operates.

The Charter requires that the Mayor and City Council appoint a Commission every ten years to review the Charter and submit changes to the voters.

The Charter Commission has had more than 45 public meetings since May of 1991. More than 200 proposed changes to our City Charter have been studied. From that list, 32 proposals were considered important enough to present to the people on November 3, 1992.

The purpose of this booklet is to explain these proposals in as concise a manner as possible — what the present situation is and what the proposed change will accomplish.

For more information, please contact the Charter Commission Office at 527-6101.

IMPORTANT

In the back of this booklet, you will find a sample of the Charter Commission ballots that you will be given at the polls on November 3rd.

Please study these proposed changes, fill out the sample ballot, and to avoid delays on Election Day, take it with you into the voting booth.

William C. McCorriston, *Chairman*

Jensen Hee, *Vice Chairman*

Gary Slovin, *Secretary*

Karen Ahn

John Anderson

Anita Penfatti

George Hong

Chester Kunitake

Jim Loomis

Allene Richardson

Roy Tsutsui

William E. Wanket

John Whalen

Annabel Chotzen, *Executive Director*

Kathleen Sakamoto, *Assistant to the Director*

John Kawamoto, *Research Analyst*

1992 CHARTER ISSUES

1. Should the number of terms an individual can serve as Mayor be limited to two full consecutive four year terms?

Present: No limit on number of terms.

If proposal passes:

- Person may serve no more than two full consecutive four-year terms.
- Person may serve more than two terms if "sits out" a term.

2. Should the number of terms an individual can serve as Councilmember be limited to two full consecutive four year terms?

Present: No limit on terms.

If proposal passes:

- Person may serve no more than two consecutive terms.
- Person may serve more than two terms if "sits out" a term.

3. Should there be four at-large seats on the nine-member City Council?

Present: Each Councilmember represents a district. There are nine districts that make up the island of Oahu. No Councilmember is elected at-large, that is, by voters of the entire island to represent the entire island.

If proposal passes:

- Four Councilmembers would be elected at-large.
- Five Councilmembers would be elected by districts, but the districts would be much larger than current districts.

4. Should Honolulu have nonpartisan elections?

Present: Candidates for Mayor and Council may run as members of political parties. Candidates for Prosecutor must run on a nonpartisan basis, that is, without party label.

If proposal passes:

- Candidates for Mayor and Council also would be required to run on a nonpartisan basis.

30. Should the penalty amount which may be prescribed by the Council for violation of the Charter or ordinances be raised to \$2,000 to conform to the State law ceiling for misdemeanors?

Present: \$1,000 is the maximum amount that may be set for violating the Charter or ordinances.

If proposal passes:

- The maximum would be raised to \$2,000.

31. Should the time the Charter Commission serves be extended an additional two months to more effectively facilitate the Charter amendment process?

Present: The Charter Commission is appointed in April of the year before it presents its proposed amendments to the voters.

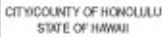

If proposal passes:

- The Charter Commission would be appointed in February of the year before it presents its proposed amendments.

32. Should the following housekeeping amendments be adopted?

- Approve technical Charter language changes proposed by the City Clerk;
- Delete obsolete sections referring to "city storerooms" because they no longer exist, and to "jails and institutions" because their functions were transferred to the State years ago; and
- Specify that Civil Service employees have the right to appeal personnel actions.

Most of the numerous housekeeping amendments proposed would make the Charter clearer in describing how City government works without making any actual changes to the way City government operates. Several of the proposed amendments would have some effect, such as the proposal to require department heads to be duly registered voters of the city. No such requirement now exists.



D1

OFFICIAL BALLOT
GENERAL ELECTION
 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1992
 AMENDMENTS TO THE CHARTER
 OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
 PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER COMMISSION

VOTE BOTH SIDES (OVER)
 This stub shall be removed by the Election Official only.

VOTE YES OR NO ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING CHARTER AMENDMENTS	
1	LIMIT MAYOR TO TWO CONSECUTIVE TERMS YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
2	LIMIT COUNCILMEMBERS TO TWO CONSECUTIVE TERMS YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
3	CREATE AT-LARGE COUNCIL REPRESENTATION FOR FOUR OUT OF NINE MEMBERS YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
4	ESTABLISH NONPARTISAN CITY ELECTIONS YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
5	REFORM THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN & ZONING PROCESS YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
6	CREATE DEPARTMENT OF WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
7	ALLOW COUNCILMEMBERS TO ABSTAIN FROM VOTING WHEN DIRECT FINANCIAL CONFLICT EXISTS YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
8	ALLOW MAYOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS WITHIN A DEPARTMENT WITHOUT COUNCIL APPROVAL YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
9	LIMIT COUNCIL FROM PROPOSING CHARTER AMENDMENTS DURING SPECIFIED PERIODS YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
VOTE BOTH SIDES (OVER) D1	

I HAVE VOTED, HAVE YOU?

VOTE BOTH SIDES (OVER)

10	ELIMINATE COUNCIL CONFIRMATION OF MANAGING DIRECTOR YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
11	ALLOW DEPARTMENT HEADS TO SERVE FOR LIMITED PERIOD PRIOR TO COUNCIL CONFIRMATION YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
12	GIVE HONOLULU'S PROSECUTOR THE AUTHORITY TO APPOINT SPECIAL ASSISTANTS YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
13	CLARIFY SALARY COMMISSION PROCEDURES; COMMISSION TO SET SALARIES OF ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS, SUBJECT TO COUNCIL VETO BY SUPER MAJORITY VOTE YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
14	INCREASE NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES REQUIRED TO IMPEACH MAYOR FROM 500 TO 5,000 AND FOR COUNCILMEMBERS FROM 500 TO 1,000 YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
15	CHANGE SIGNATURE REQUIREMENT FOR RECALL AND INITIATIVE FROM BASE OF "TOTAL VOTES CAST" TO "TOTAL REGISTERED VOTERS" YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
16	REQUIRE QUALIFICATIONS OF A) HEALTH DIRECTOR TO INCLUDE BACKGROUND IN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES; AND B) MEDICAL EXAMINER TO COMPLY WITH STATE STATUTES YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
17	MAKE REAPPORTIONMENT PLAN EFFECTIVE AT NEXT ELECTION YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
VOTE BOTH SIDES (OVER) D1	